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BOOK REVIEW

Phenomena: The Secret History of the U.S. Government's Investigations into Extrasensory Perception and Psychokinesis by Annie Jacobsen. Boston, MA: Little, Brown, 2017. 544 pp. $14.64 (hardcover). ISBN 978-0316349369.

When the book *Phenomena* by Annie Jacobsen first arrived, I expected it to be filled with all the facts that I know about the U.S. Army's involvement with ESP. Having been involved with the Army's use of remote viewing since the very beginning as Remote Viewer #001, and serving in that capacity for the entire 27 years of the Army's Star Gate program's existence, I have had direct access to all of the operational material, as well as the science. I also worked in the lab at Stanford Research Institute International (SRI) for a number of years, as well as the Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) lab for the entire time of its existence. So, I expected a pleasurable and comfortable read. Annie Jacobsen's book is supposed to be the definitive history of the Government's use of psychics for intelligence purposes. Unfortunately, the book does not start out in this direction. Within the first 200 pages, she attempts to entertain the reader with a less-thanconcise history of the paranormal and its tangencies to the government; her purported connections to intelligence services are all over the map. They include the Air Force, CIA, and sometimes the Army. However, the way she presents the material is confusing and fails to identify which service or agency she is talking about. The reader must repetitively go to the index or chapter references to know which. The 'primary' behind the Star Gate Program was the United States Army, which is why this is important. The CIA funded

approximately $160,000 at the very beginning of the program, which established the possibility of remote viewing research (RV). The U.S. Army and the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) provided just short of $19,000,000, and established the RV threat as a collection methodology.

What should be established from the very beginning is the fact that the Central Intelligence Agency has always had an interest in whatever bizarre method might be used to shut down, interfere with, or eradicate problems the U. S. Government might be dealing with (such as specially treated cigars intended to make Castro's beard fall out, or psychedelics to lessen someone's resistance to interrogation). But there is no CIA connection to how or why U.S. Army Counter Intelligence decided to investigate RV as a threat.

Himmler's interest in chasing the occult to ensure Hitler's victories and world domination, or Andrija Puharich's interest in psychedelics and mushrooms as well as his difficulties in finding the source of the mushrooms (while interesting and quite normal for a medical doctor), have no bearing on what then follows in the book beyond page 200. Puharich's interest in psychedelics is clear, but what is not clear is whether Puharich was ever an agent or employee of the CIA, or the U.S. Army.

There are many reasons why this book shouldn't be thought of as a definitive history. A lot of what the author says is simply wrong, and many of her assumptions are based on false premises. Some of these errors are presented in this Review.

Phenomena opens with a concise statement in the Prologue, establishing what the book covers. It's about:

1. "The U.S. government's decades-long interest in anomalous mental phenomena, including extra-sensory perception [ESP], psychokinesis [PK], map dowsing, and other forms of divination, ..." *This is true.*

2. "And then, just a few years after the end of World War II, the U.S. government determined anomalous mental phenomena to be effective military and intelligence tools, and began to investigate their possible use in classified operations." *This is not true.*

Jacobsen then jumps to what is essentially the beginning of what she calls "the real action" which she says began in 1972, when a small group of promising young scientists was approached by the CIA to embark upon a research program involving psychics, or "sensitives." At "Stanford Research Institute . . ." *Which is only half true.*

The CIA did spend $50,000 to ascertain if ESP could be of value, and it was determined that it could be. Jacobsen states that because of this

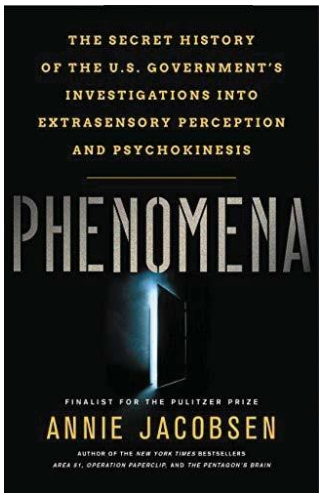
finding ". . . everybody wanted in on it—the Navy, the Air Force, the Army [including its Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM) and the Development and Readiness Command], the Coast Guard . . .", and she goes on to list just about all the people who were eventually supported by Project Star Gate. She cleverly twists the truth here to imply that the entire U.S. Government wanted in on it from the beginning. *Which is not true*.

The reason the U.S. Army, specifically the 902nd Military Intelligence (MI) Group, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, originally became involved, was based on the premise that if what was happening at SRI International was real, then perhaps what the Soviets were alledgedly doing in the field of the paranormal could also be true, and could be a direct threat to the security of the United States. After nearly a year of investigating this issue, the 902nd MI made the decision to test this premise. They began by trying to locate three possible psychics within its own ranks, and then with the intention of spending a year training them to do what was being done at SRI they would use them to target our own facilities for a year, after which an independent analysis of the material would be made to verify what the actual threat in this area to the United States from the Soviet Union might actually be. It was originally called Project *Gondola Wish.*

These facts are a far cry from the sensationalistic novel being sold here as fact. Jacobsen goes further, implying there were many scientists, physicists, biologists, neurophysiologists, cyberneticists, astrophysicists, a general, an admiral, a Nobel Laureate, and an Apollo astronaut involved within this program effort. However, many of these people she investigated or declares she interviewed had either very little to do with the project, or had absolutely nothing to do with the project at all. Bringing them into the book simply added a huge and further complicating extension to what had really happened. Much of what these people had to say was either not pertinent to the story of what the government was doing or provided Jacobsen with detritus to fill in the paragraphs she needed to complete the outline she had already carved from her imagination.

The work done within what is now known as the Star Gate Project most certainly didn't begin with the Nazis, nor did it have anything to do with Colonel William Donovan, the father of Military Intelligence (MI), or with the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), which was a precursor to the CIA. It had nothing to do with De Wohl, or Himmler, Goudsmit, truth serums, or controlling human behavior. It was never connected to Bluebird, or Artichoke, or MKULTRA, even though Jacobsen says it was. While Andrija Puharich was certainly a colorful individual, he had nothing to do with SRI and the U.S. Army's interest in determining the Communist psi threat. And neither do the beginning chapters of this book.

In Chapter Three, the most notable error is misnaming the father of modern American ESP research as "James Bank Rhine" (p. 41). His real name is "Joseph Banks Rhine," which anyone truly interested in accurately reporting on American interests in the field of psi would know. Also, if one spent any time at all reviewing Rhine's depth of knowledge within the field, his research reports and papers, they would know that Martin Gardner's efforts at debunking Rhine's work, like that of many skeptics, completely ignores the data, instead preferring to attack Rhine's "beliefs" or "attitudes." But, more to the point, Jacobsen says that locating mines buried underwater using dogs or understanding the skills of homing pigeons are somehow linked to the continuing saga of the U.S. Army's interests in ESP; but actually none of this material has anything to do with the use of psychics or ESP in the Star Gate Program.



It is no surprise that we suddenly find Puharich's re-entry into the picture trying to "locate a drug that might enhance ESP." But, Jacobsen then quickly leaps to a conclusion based on the CIA's quest for a truth serum, that this must also mean "the Army wanted a drug to turn ESP on and off like a light switch." While this may have been Puharich's goal, I've never seen nor heard of this goal being one the U.S. Army has pursued, and I was part of the effort for the entire length of the program, having worked both sides— collection as well as within the labs. I can say most emphatically it was never a part of the Army's ESP Program Star Gate.

Again, any investigation of the Star Gate Program would have to have uncovered the more than half a dozen oversight committees—Congressional, Scientific, as well as Human Use—that oversaw our Program. I am completely surprised that somehow Jacobsen missed this. Any one of these committees would have shut down the program at the merest hint of any interest in the use of drugs. To imply there even was an interest degrades the reputation of every person who honorably served within the Star Gate Project. If that isn't bad enough, Jacobsen goes further by saying "It is not known whether or not he [Puharich] was privy to the CIA's ESP programs." She still directly connects him to MKULTRA Subproject 58, which had nothing to do with ESP. MKULTRA was targeted toward interrogations. And, Puharich had no connection to Project Star Gate. Jacobsen knows this, but says it anyway (pp. 44, 45).

She drives the hammer home on these "alternate facts" with her statement; "The program Puharich's superior was likely referring to was the CIA's MKULTRA, Subproject 58 . . . ." In numerous instances throughout her book, Jacobsen treats us to her leaps of faith, which is a dishonest or deceitful method of including, connecting, or otherwise implying connection to something where no real connection exists. This is clearly shoddy reporting, and unfortunately it exists throughout the manuscript, so much so that all the errors would fill many pages in this Review to the point of reader boredom.

Part II, THE CIA YEARS, opens with Chapter Six, the Enigma of Uri Geller. Uri Geller's connection to the Army's use of psychics is threaded throughout the book. While Geller was involved in a very short series of experiments over a period of less than 6 weeks in the 23-year project, his results were typically common to those of dozens of people tested over the years. He was brought into the lab at SRI at the specific request of the CIA, prior to the U.S. Army's decision to test the degree of threat. Geller had no impact on this decision.

While it was reported numerous times that Geller demonstrated an ability to bend metal by paranormal means, the lab noted in *Nature 252*:602– 607 that lab personnel were unable to combine such observations with adequately controlled experiments to obtain sufficient data to support any paranormal hypothesis. He was not part of the Army program, yet Jacobsen talks of metal bending for nearly 15 pages, implying general CIA interest in his abilities. In fact, Geller was tested at the request of Director Helms for reasons known only to him. The 6 weeks of testing that took place at SRI were set up to satisfy Helm's request. There was no connection to the Army project, if for no other reason than that Geller and Puharich lacked valid security clearances and Star Gate was a Special Access Program (SAP) that didn't exist yet. In spite of these facts, Jacobsen makes it appear that all this was taking place at the same time. The testing of Uri Geller was done years before the Army's interest in pursuing ESP or the use of psychics to test the viability of the Soviet threat. Nevertheless, there is still an attempt to make a connection, to sell the continuity of her assumptions.

In the next chapter, we are treated to Edgar Mitchell's trip to the Moon, which is quite entertaining but has absolutely nothing to do with the Army Project Star Gate or the Army's interest in using psychics for intelligence collection purposes. The U.S. Army project began as a counterintelligence operation to determine the effectiveness and threat of the Soviet use of psychics against the United States of America. This was generated by the early findings at SRI vis-à-vis the CIA-sponsored research begun circa 1972 (https://www.cia.gov/library/readingroom/docs/CIA-

RDP9600788R002000160011-2.pdf). Note: The date on this document is 1978, many years after the CIA's efforts at SRI.

Given the above, I would advise a reader who is interested in the Government's true efforts in using psychics for Intelligence purposes to skip the fi rst 200 pages of *Phenomena* and go to where the action truly begins— with Dale Graff's efforts to translate the piles of military research material that had been obtained from the Soviet Union by the Intelligence community at large, and his preliminary uses of psi to locate a Russian bomber that had disappeared over Zaire. This success signifi cantly demonstrated to the U.S. Army that the use of psychics for intelligence purposes might well be a viable path.

Chapter 14 introduces the beginning of the formal efforts by the U.S. Army 902nd Military Intelligence Group, previously noted as *Project Gondola Wish*. As an Operational Security (OPSEC) Offi cer, U.S. Army, Second Lieutenant Frederick Holmes Atwater identifi ed the potential Soviet psi threat underscored by the early research done on what would eventually be called *Remote Viewing* by Dr. Hal Puthoff and Russell Targ at SRI International.

According to Jacobsen, Lieutenant Atwater made a proposal and recommendation to his boss, Major Robert E. Keenan, that OPSEC hire SRI and their "sensitives" to target U.S. Army classifi ed facilities and operations to see if they could obtain any information of value, thus replicating possible Soviet capabilities that might highlight U.S. Army vulnerabilities. Keenan responded this would be "impossible" since the SRI sensitives didn't have the proper security clearances. Rather than stand down, Atwater suggested they might be able to fi nd personnel within INSCOM with high levels of latent ability to do the same. Keenan kicked it to the top of his chain of command, where it was eventually approved by Major General Edmund R. Thompson, the assistant Chief of Staff for Army Intelligence (ACSI), and Project *Gondola Wish* was born.

Unfortunately, Jacobsen isn't three pages into the very beginning of Chapter Fourteen, when she severely undermines my own military history by saying: "A senior projects offi cer in Signals Intelligence and Electronic Warfare, he was thirty-two years old. His personal life was a mess, and he disliked the Army. From his perspective, he had given his employer everything, and it had given him back very little." She quotes page 59 of my book *Memoirs of a Psychic Spy*. But her statements are false. If she had taken the time to read my book in its entirety, she would have known this was referring to an in-the-moment argument I had with my Company Commander over approval of leave (from Germany) when my fi rst wife deserted me and took my 2-year-old son with her back to the States. It was not referring to my feelings toward the United States Army.

Additionally, the period she is describing on page 59 wasn't about the above time period at all. It was the beginning of Project *Gondola Wish*, while I was assigned to the INSCOM Headquarters and was in charge of my Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) worldwide. At that point in time, I refl ected on my overall feelings for my entire time in the Army on page 73 of *Memoirs*, where I said:

> Within my MOS or group of peers, I was sitting in the catbird seat. There just weren't any jobs really that were better, more demanding, or more respected than the one I was sitting in. I was working right next to the fl agpole, putting in ten- to twelve-hour days with lots of weekend overtime, dealing with unbelievable challenges, *and loving every minute of it*. [Italics my own]

Reading my entire book would have been of great benefi t to her for determining how I felt toward the Army. No one spends more than 12 straight years plus with an unbroken chain of overseas assignments, backto-back, unless they truly do love it.

I **did**, because I loved every minute of it. And, no one resents the threat of being assigned to a stateside training unit, like Fort Bragg, more than when they've just completed a string of 14 years working at nothing but active operational missions in defense of their homeland and Nation.

Of course, I resented the very idea of a training assignment. These are issues someone would understand after reading my book, or volunteering two decades of their life to the American people and defense of the United States Constitution. But, Jacobsen found it was apparently easier to trash my entire career and personal commitment to the love for my country. When I specifi cally asked her to correct this, she refused (email; Annie Jacobsen, 12:04 a.m., 4/18/2017).

In fairness, she did agree to correct three other errors: "Sometimes his father would hit him so hard, his ears would ring and his face would bleed" (p. 230). She is changing this to accurately refl ect that it was my mother and not my father who did this (p. 7 in my *Memoirs*). What's more curious, is that Jacobsen felt the need to write about it as part of my Near Death Experience (NDE), which it wasn't. And—another error—my NDE actually occurred 6 years later in Europe, not in Miami where I had lived as a child.

Jacobsen must have also felt that including my twin-sister Margaret's problems in the description of my NDE might play better to her readers. Nevertheless, it didn't happen the way she stated. She agreed to correct the part where she says Margaret was "dependent on drugs" (p. 230), in other words, a *drug addict*. Of course, my sister wasn't. And the nuns didn't take her baby away when she was pregnant during her high school years; the aunt she was sent to live with in Baltimore did (p. 19 in my *Memoirs*),

something Jacobsen has also refused to correct. Jacobsen refused to correct her statement that my sister was ". . . sedated" (p. 230). I never made that statement either.

"Back in America after the war, he worked at a series of unsatisfying Army Jobs" (p. 231); an interesting statement, but also *not true*. Following my tour of duty in Vietnam, I went directly to Europe and while there served in four different assignments in four different cities, over my three very satisfying years tour of duty in West Germany. All four of those assignments were real and active missions in Europe, every bit as serious within the drama of the Cold War, as were my assignments and activities served over 27 months of duty in Southeast Asia.

"Here, inside an electronically shielded room . . ." (p. 233); none of the remote viewing rooms on Fort Meade had electronic shielding. Like much of the book, this is pure invention.

"At Fort Meade, the stage was now set for a state of utter confusion and chaos" (p. 240). What was remote viewing? Unknown. How did it work? Unknown. Where does the information come from? Unknown. How does the remote viewer interpret it? Unknown. All of these questions, 'unknown' at the time. But, utter confusion and chaos?—that never happened!

Jacobsen's statement is demeaning and irresponsibly defames the professionalism and herculean efforts by the handful of professional Intelligence offi cers who stepped up when asked, even at the cost of their careers. Some gave their lives to the effort, in support of a program to explore a Soviet threat, doing something which was never expected to work. Jacobsen's statement is outrageous, but not surprising given the amount of abuse participants of Star Gate have suffered over many decades now. It's precisely this kind of shoddy reporting that the Star Gate personnel have been subjected to that is so offensive. An investigative reporter should at least spend the critical time required to ensure that their facts are correct. The following are other errors noticed within the book *Phenomena*:

1. Many of the people identifi ed by Jacobsen as having been interviewed by her regarding the U.S. Army psi Program, had nothing to do with Star Gate (following and pp. 488–492). The few she does list within her book who were aware of Star Gate were not cleared for and had no access to the program offi ces. This is especially true following the taking of the United States Embassy in Tehran, Iran, and the incarceration of American hostages. Information provided to Jacobsen by these people is hearsay and either invented or second-hand. I would list them here, but there are just too many.

An example is Lieutenant Colonel John Alexander. We were all under very specifi c orders from the Commander of INSCOM, General Burt Stubblebine, not to share information about Star Gate with John Alexander. The General told me in private that he was upset that John was becoming too involved with too many things, and he (John) had too much on his plate. The General wanted him focused on the job he had assigned to him. We complied, and to my knowledge this order was never rescinded.

I was friends with John, and knew at the time that John was chasing down many other leads for the General. However, as excited as things had become under Bert's command, the General himself was sometimes mixing apples and oranges, or he would forget the fi rewalls he had himself created and would bring things up in front of people who were not read in for them—that is, had a specifi c need to know. Need-to-know is one of the most important concepts within intelligence for controlling those fi rewalls.

2. Jacobsen states: "This time, McMoneagle produced a very positive, ten-page classifi ed report encouraging his commanding offi cers at INSCOM to allow other soldiers to learn how to expand their consciousness and have out-of-body experiences at the Monroe Institute" (p. 289). First and foremost, those were not **my** commanding offi cers. This is fi ction and simply not true. What is true is that I wrote a *trip report* on how I benefi ted from my participation at The Monroe Institute (TMI) and how I felt it would support my efforts as a remote viewer in Star Gate. I wrote this report under a direct order from General Stubblebine. Jacobsen then also states: ". . . this is where a *red fl ag* should have been raised . . ." (italics my own). This implies my report was reckless at best and dangerous at worse. This is an assault on my integrity and intelligence as a U.S. Army Chief Warrant Offi cer. One of the major responsibilities of a Chief Warrant Offi cer in the United States Army is keeping his/her commander out of trouble. If the report is read in detail, end-to-end, it is obvious that it is a *warning* that such experiences, like those one might have at TMI, might not be well-received by many of the Offi cers within the INSCOM Command structure (italics my own). A primary reason I wrote the trip report in the fi rst place.

In fact, as one of General Stubblebine's personal advisors, I sat in my car from midnight until almost 3:00 a.m. in the Monroe Institute parking lot, talking privately with the General, warning him that, in my perception, he had gone one step too far and his career was at great risk. He listened intently and then ignored my recommendation that he cease sending INSCOM people to TMI. This quickly resulted in his early retirement at the specifi c request of the ACSI, at the Pentagon—the very same person who saw great value coming from the Star Gate Program and approved its initiation.

3. Jacobsen says the following regarding why people were being sent to TMI; what they were supposed to be learning: ". . . how to expand their consciousness and have an out-of-body experience [OBE]" (p. 292). Neither TMI nor I have ever said that while attending the Institute one will have an OBE. It can and does happen, but it is not guaranteed. I mentioned this in my trip report, because I had had spontaneous OBEs since my NDE in Austria, in 1970. The fact that it occurred more than once while attending the Seminar at TMI, I felt was important. The way Jacobsen says it is not the way I said it in my trip report.

4. Most of what Jacobsen says about the focus levels and TMI's program (pp. 302–303) is not only a single person's viewpoint, but inaccurate on many levels, as well as hearsay. It would have been more informative had Jacobsen interviewed someone from the TMI staff who worked there and asked these questions directly. This is especially true regarding the fi nal exercise.

Most of what was done in the fi nal exercise was written by General Stubblebine, and done at his specifi c direction. It is not philosophically consistent with what Mr. Robert Monroe would have done. This is something I should know, since he was my close friend and father-in-law for quite a few years. Nor was this an accurate representation or portrayal of an appropriate remote viewing protocol. It does refl ect what was going on with the General inside INSCOM at that time and a primary example of why the General was asked to retire early.

The General was excited by what he was experiencing and felt it would be of great benefi t to those within his command. His euphoria from what he was discovering may have gotten him into trouble with his immediate supervisor, and it would have been far more accurate to have addressed that issue in an appropriate way, rather than writing about it in the sensationalistic and manipulative fashion exemplifi ed throughout Jacobsen's book. It's true that Jacobsen is entitled to her own opinion on such matters, however it denigrates and badly distorts what was actually happening at that time. These issues could have been addressed with a single phone call, but in my opinion this would have disrupted the message Jacobsen intended to express from the very beginning.

It is also my opinion that this entire book is just one more example of slanted journalism. It is far easier to ignore the vast collection of scientifi c research and facts amassed over the past 45 years that support what was going on back then, than it is to spend the time and effort it would take to read the supportive material. Of course, if you take the low road as a writer, instead of a balanced appraisal, you don't have to suffer the slings and arrows of ridicule that automatically come with investigating the paranormal.

5. I've spent considerable time addressing problems pertinent only to myself within Jacobsen's book for two reasons: 1) In many cases I have no idea the number of errors there are specifi c to others as far as details are concerned, and 2) I do not wish to put words in the mouths of others. However, I do know there are many errors within Jacobsen's book because a signifi cant number of them have been identifi ed and forwarded to me. Some of these comments are itemized below, beginning with those forwarded to me by Angela Dellafi ora. I've known Angela for a long time. She is a Professional Intelligence Analyst who is highly respected and valued for her work over many decades within the walls of numerous agencies in the Washington D.C. area. Her concerns are as follows:

a. On page 304, Jacobsen says that when Ms. Dellafi ora heard that the Defense Intelligence Agency was hiring young civilians with degrees in political science, she leapt at the chance. But the truth is that she heard about intern programs that the Department of Army (INSCOM) had and that they were hiring people with political science degrees. She was hired by INSCOM, not the Defense Intelligence Agency.

b. On page 306 (top of page): Ms. Dellafi ora did not ask for a meeting with General Stubblebine, as is stated. She was introduced to John Alexander by a young female captain. John Alexander made the introduction to General Stubblebine. She did not ask Stubblebine for a job. She would never have done that as it was not in her nature to do such a thing. Additionally, it would have been a terrible violation of military ethics to have done so; which is obviously something Jacobsen doesn't understand about the military.

c. On page 306 (bottom of page), Jacobsen claims that Ms. Dellafi ora told her that she was scheduled to go to Monroe, but that her supervisor and his colleague went instead. Once again, this is not true. Ms. Dellafi ora's supervisor did not go to Monroe. Ms. Dellafi ora was taken off the list twice because higher-ranking military men wanted to attend. One traveled from Hawaii to do so. The third time, she voluntarily decided not to go because she knew two of the people going (Douglas Patt and Major Finch), and she did not want to be there with them. She had worked with Patt previously (but he was sent to the front offi ce to work) and she was still working with Major Finch. Doug Patt was a replacement that was approved solely by General Stubbleinne just prior to the bus departing Arlington Hall Station. He had not been vetted by the Staff Psychologist prior to his participation, which ended up causing a major problem for TMI as well as for the General.

d. On page 308, an error. Paul Smith called Ms. Dellafi ora (in reference to her recruitment for the Star Gate Program), so her fi rst meeting was with Smith, at Arlington Hall Station. She was not recruited at the 902nd MI Group at Fort Meade, as Jacobsen says. But Dellafi ora does remember two later interviews occurring at Fort Meade. She doesn't know how Jacobsen could have mixed this up.

e. On page 315, Jacobsen states that Dellafi ora told her that on January 1, 1986, Dr. Jack Vorona made administrative changes he felt were long overdue. He converted the job of branch chief to a civilian. This is not accurate. On January 1, 1986, Angela Dellafi ora wasn't yet part of the unit. Dellafi ora didn't show up until July of 1986, and then Fern Gauvin entered the unit as a contributing member at the end of 1986. In 1987, Bill Ray entered the unit as branch chief, followed by Colonel William Xenakis who took his place. After Xenakis left in early 1988, fully two years later, was when Dr. Vorona made the position civilian and gave it to Fern Gauvin. There are quite a few places within the book that Jacobsen mixes dates and events. In many cases, this leads a reader to believe things which occurred for other reasons and not the reasons stated. An example would be section 4. above.

f. On page 347, Jacobsen reports that the fi rst Higgins session was conducted at the DIAC by Angela Dellafi ora, with only Paul Smith and Ed Dames present. But she neglected to include Lyn Buchanan, Mel Riley, and Fern Gauvin who were also at the session. Fern served as Angela's monitor, and Dr. Vorona was also there. Dellafi ora cannot remember if Dale Graff was there or not. This might sound like a small issue, but when one is discussing things happening of signifi cance in reference to the Star Gate Program, nothing is trivial.

g. On page 366, an error. Dellafi ora wonders where the name "Jim Marrs" comes from, introduced here by Jacobsen. Jacobsen reports that he is a newspaper reporter from Texas and that Dames and Morehouse were collaborating with him to write an expose about the still-classifi ed RV program. This is an impossibility since transcripts from David Morehouse's Court-Martial at Fort Bragg four years after his abrupt termination from the Star Gate Program state that he and Dames were collaborating with their book agent over weekends in New York. Another example of inaccurate research and reporting.

h. On pages 369–370, Jacobsen reports that the CIA ordered an evaluation of Star Gate by an outside fi rm after the Agency was put in

charge as the unit custodian. Jacobsen doesn't report on how the Star Gate Program was moved to the CIA. She jumped from Morehouse to the CIA without any clarifi cation. She makes these jumps in time in numerous places throughout the book. This is sloppy when compiling an historical record, and leads a reader to make wrong assumptions. In this case, a signifi cant error which follows in section 5.i. below.

i. On page 371, Jacobsen missed a major point. She said that Angela Dellafi ora traveled to Langley (CIA Headquarters) to box up the Star Gate materials for the National Archives. Angela Dellafi ora says that she did not go to Langley to do this. The Star Gate boxes were packed at Fort Meade and shipped from there. Following the formal termination of Project Star Gate, Angela received a call from a Department of Defense (DoD) policymaker who followed Special Access Programs. Angela remembers this was in the winter because it was very cold outside when they fi rst met and went to lunch. She states: "He wanted to see the documents and asked if I would accompany him since I would know what was important and what was not." He felt that she could save him time. It was at this time they noticed the boxes had *never been opened* (italics my own).

This meant the <u>CIA NEVER REVIEWED ANY OF THE OPERATIONAL FILES</u> during their reported study while deciding whether to accept managerial responsibility for the project as directed by Congress. This is an astounding statement. It points to one of the greatest *disservices* ever done to the Star Gate unit, its personnel, and the American people. It further sullied the reputations of those who had addressed and established a still extant threat to the United States of America and underscores the politicization of the Central Intelligence Agency. This is something that it seems would have been far more relevant and specifi c to the content of Jacobsen's investigative book. It shows a serious breach in the CIA's responsibility to Congress and their directives. Jacobsen never mentions this, and yet it is one of the most critical issues in the history of the Star Gate Program. Unbelievable!

The CIA was one of the heaviest users of Star Gate intelligence for the entire 27-year period of its existence, and, while they refused in many cases to provide feedback on how accurate or inaccurate the information provided by Star Gate was, they then lied to Congress concerning the effi cacy of its evaluation of the Project in order not to assume managerial responsibility for it. This was a serious insult to the government and the Administration in charge at the time. It seems that any investigative reporter would have gone after this immediately, but Jacobsen leaves it untouched. She obviously either doesn't understand the subject she is writing about or it didn't fi t into her already established outline.

6. On page 167, Jacobsen comments on one of Pat Price's most effective remote viewings, and states: ". . . but the spheres were not locatable, and this agitated [the] CIA." Kress then wrote in a now declassifi ed report: "From experience, it was obvious that Price produced bad data as well as good." And this is where her investigation of RV and Price's accuracy stops. The following is a comment from Russell Targ: "I think the true story
of the Russian spheres is too complicated for her [Jacobsen's] purposes. The sixty-foot gores for [the] spheres were being assembled underground, just as Price drew them. But, the CIA didn't learn about them until two years later, by satellite imaging. We got our confi rming information from *Aviation Week* magazine, the size, location, and all. Kit [Christopher Green] confi rms it in our fi lm, which I believe she [Annie Jacobsen] saw in a PA [Parapsychological Association] screening, since some of our CIA interview conversations appear in her book" (per Russell Targ's iPhone message, 3/23/2017, 12:12 p.m.). If she saw that screening, it's surprising she failed to correct this in her manuscript, or she purposely left it out. Since Jacobsen knew that Kit was an agent of the CIA (p. 394, *Phenomena*), again the CIA lied, and the author failed to pick up on it.

7. An additional comment from Russell Targ, specifi cally regarding accuracy is: "Annie also repeats the absurd conjecture that a Russian confederate might have given the crane and sphere info to Price before he started his RV. But, I had the Geo coordinates in my wallet from Ken Kress. Price didn't see them until we were in our SRI second-fl oor shielded room for an hour. Absolutely no opportunity for Russian inputs. Russ" (per Russell Targ's iPhone message, 3/23/2017, 12:32 p.m.).

8. On page 311 and contrary to what Jacobsen asserts, Thomas McNear, while trained in CRV by Mr. Ingo Swann, never worked as a remote viewer in the unit. He chose instead to depart for health reasons. It is common knowledge that Ed Dames was also never a remote viewer within the unit. He took over Operational management from Frederick Atwater who put in his retirement papers. These are important errors because they show further ignorance of basic facts of the Program.

This points out the single greatest defi ciency of the entire book: Jacobsen interviewed Dr. Hal Puthoff and Russell Targ, the co-founders of the paranormal lab at SRI International, but their work represents something less than 23–25% of the research and known information regarding the use of psychics to collect intelligence materials. She gives a single passing reference to Dr. Edwin C. May. Dr. May joined the research team at SRI in 1976. Dr. May then became the Research Director and head

of the science side of the project at SRI in 1985 and remained so through the transfer of the lab from SRI to SAIC in 1990. He was responsible for all of the science support to the U.S. Army and DIA until the project was formally closed by the CIA in November of 1995. Under his watch, nearly 70% of the research money was not only raised by him, but he was also responsible for approximately 85% of the research accomplished in the Star Gate Project.

He and our esteemed colleague, Dr. Sonali Marwaha (who isn't mentioned at all in Jacobsen's book), have spent about 4 years organizing and polishing the 1.3 million words of science supporting Remote Viewing. This work is planned for publication and release by McFarland Publishing Company of Jefferson, North Carolina, sometime this fall (2017). All this scientifi c research has been replicated numerous times in many labs, peer reviewed and published in a number of respected journals. It goes without saying, that just mentioning this material would have been critical to publishing a work that speaks to the U.S. Army Remote Viewing unit history. One must ask: Why wasn't this mentioned? Again, Jacobsen chose the low road as a journalist, the sensationalist path. Meanwhile, the CIA gets away with saying it was "of no value." Critical areas an investigative reporter would question in my opinion.

There are numerous references and comments made about Dr. Jack Vorona. He is listed as someone Jacobsen either interviewed or with whom she had written correspondence. When queried by Dr. Edwin May, Jack said he was never queried by email, but she did call and ask him for an interview. He said "She was a very stubborn sort and it took me a while to convince her that I wanted no part of it" (per email with Dr. Edwin C. May, regarding his personal conversation with Dr. Jack Vorona, 3/23/2017, 12:37 p.m.). I also know Jack very well and know that he will not consent to providing a statement to anyone about the Star Gate Program for any reason. That has been his modus operandi for all the years I have known him. I respect him for this.

The following list of people interviewed had no direct knowledge of the U.S. Army Star Gate Project or any of the Army's information collection effectiveness using remote viewing: Colonel John B. Alexander, Michael Bigelow, Deepak Chopra, Dr. Eric W. Davis, Don Eyles, Dr. Brian D. Josephson, Serge Kernbach, Lawrence M. Krauss, Louis J. Matacia, Richard Allen Miller, Captain Edgar Mitchell, Dr. Garry Nolan, Dr. Alvaro Pascual-Leone, James Randi, Caleb A. Scharf, Harrison Schmitt, Stephan A. Schwartz, Angela Thompson Smith, Winston Smith, Andrea Stocco, Dan Williams, Hanna Geller, Shipi Shtrang, Ginette Matacia Lucas, Stephanie Hurkos, Murleen Ryder, Andrew Puharich, Adrienne Puthoff. Forgive my ignorance if I have left the proper title off for anyone listed above. I took these names directly from the list of interviews in *Phenomena*

which listed no proper titles. A further important note: According to Jacobsen, I gave her an interview, but I am NOT listed as a source in her book. Since all of this occurred following major surgery on my spine, which I was right in the middle of recovering from when we supposedly shared this phone call, I told her that I could not remember that we had a phone call. While I can fi nd nothing in my records attesting to this interview, Jacobsen claims we did the interview by phone, so I will give her the benefi t of the doubt. I just fi nd it interesting that with all the names listed that do not belong there, mine apparently should be there but is not.

There are dozens of names which should be there, but for some reason are not listed, who **did** have direct access to the *Star Gate* Project. I must also state that there are more errors regarding material Jacobsen attributes to me, but most are of no real consequence in comparison with the ones I've already pointed out. Once again, it just shows a terrible sloppiness.

In Summation

I eventually fi nished reading the book, and there were many more errors I'm just too fatigued to pursue in this report. I would never recommend this book to anyone as an historical record, as there are too many errors and false statements. What is sad and terribly disconcerting about this, is that a reader who knows absolutely nothing about the Star Gate Project, has no way of knowing what is true and what is not. Just about any reader coming from a background of little to no knowledge will walk away after reading the book even more ignorant than they were before they started.

Finally, the way it is written belies the value of remote viewing to the number of agencies supported for more than 20 years. Her story damages the reputations of those who dedicated their efforts and signifi cant time to explore and understand the possible threat to American security. Informal interviews with some of the most notable people quoted in the book underplay the seriousness with which the U.S. Army approached its responsibilities in chasing down and understanding this new information collection capability.

Despite the truth, Annie Jacobsen chose to produce a more sensationalized report, shot through with seriously fl awed material, much of which is completely disconnected from the reality of psi collection history in the U.S. Army. In the end, she deliberately chose to sensationalize and ridicule rather than present what could and should have been a far more accurate, fair, balanced, complete, and effective historical discovery of record. It is a very poorly written book with too many errors to recommend it to anyone seriously seeking information on the Army ESP Program Star Gate. **Joseph W. McMoneagle**

CW2, U.S. Army, Retired

Remote Viewer #001 of Project Star Gate